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October 14, 1982

UC 459-315

Mr. Walt Novak  
Manti-LaSalle National Forest  
10 Carbon Avenue  
Price, Utah 84501

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OCT 18 1982

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS & MINING

Dear Walt:

On 12 October, Dr. James VanGundy and I visited Rilda Canyon and collected a number of macroinvertebrate samples from the stream. In keeping with our telephone conversation of 6 October, I herein transmit to you the details of our sampling, so that you may pass the information on to those appropriate persons on your staff for their comments.

First we selected three sampling stations for present and future sampling. I do not enclose a map of their exact locations, but we do have them pinpointed on our project maps. Station No. 1 was located approximately 0.25 mile above the upper North Emery Water Users spring. This station was frozen solid and no free-flowing water was present; however, it is probable that some hyporheic organisms still remain. Even though Station No. 1 could not be sampled at this time, a sample will be taken in the spring.

Station No. 2 lies directly below (downstream) from the lowest North Emery Water Users spring. The flow here was found to be approximately 1 cfs. A modified Surber Sampler was used to collect 3 square feet of substrate. No more suitable substrate was found at this location.

Station No. 3 was located approximately 100 feet above the V-notch weir at the lower end of Rilda Creek. The flow at this point was about 2 cfs. The substrate here was cemented by marl; hence, macroinvertebrate habitat was limited. The sample consisted of 4 square feet of rock and moss clumps.

The samples were removed from the sampler and, with only minor sorting to remove large leaves and pebbles, were preserved, detritus and all, in 80 percent Etoh for sorting in the laboratory. The sorting and identification will be performed by Dr. VanGundy, who has a Ph.D. from the University of Utah and specializes in taxonomy of aquatic macroinvertebrates.

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Our plans call for a second sampling at the same locations after the spring runoff recedes.

I hope the above outline is sufficient to evaluate our sampling methodology. Please call me should any questions arise. We look forward to your comments at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

FORD, BACON & DAVIS UTAH INC.



Jack A. Elder, Ph.D.  
Senior Environmental Scientist

JAE/clj

cc: Mary Boucek  
Larry Dalton  
Clarke Johnson  
Andy King  
Project File